

Monday, September 8, 2008

- 4:00 – 5:30 PM **Conference Registration and Sign-up, Vendor/Exhibitor Set-up**
- State Transportation Building at Ten Park Plaza, 2nd Floor Atrium
- 5:45 – 6:30 PM **Networking Reception**
- At the Radisson Hotel (across the street), 200 Stuart Street
 - Carver I Ballroom
- 6:30 – 8:30 PM **Welcoming Reception with Light Dinner** (at the Radisson Hotel)
- Kick-off Session, Overview of agenda
 - Carver I Ballroom
- 8:30 – 9:30 PM **Eastern Region Executive Committee Meeting** (at the Radisson Hotel)
- Hosted by Chairman Robert Herstein
 - Committee members and invited guests only
 - Discussions on current agenda and future host locations

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

- 8:00 – 8:30 AM Remaining registration sign-up, Exhibitors and Vendor displays open.
- 8:30 AM SHARP **Welcoming session and setting the stage**
Tom Woll (FRA), Tim Davis & Frank Frey (DPU)
- 8:45 – 9:15 AM **Acquiring an Existing Railroad With Major Crossing Upgrades**
John F. Kennedy (President of Mass Coastal Railroad)
- Dilemma's faced during transition
 - Short and long-term goals
 - Networking with Massachusetts DPU and EOT
- 9:15 – 10:00 AM **Grade Crossing Design in Practice**
Alex P. Goff (URS), Eric Fleming, PE (DMJM Harris), Larry Warren (FRA)
- Design Criteria
 - Community Involvement Through On-site Diagnostic Field Review
 - Four-quadrant Gate System
- 10:00 – 10:15 AM **BREAK**
- 10:15 – 10:30 AM **State Crossing Program Reports** (from attending states)
- 10:30 – 11:15 PM **MUTCD - Part 8 & Part 10**
Rick Campbell (Rio Grande), Dave Peterson (Union Pacific)
- New Updates
 - Proposed Changes
 - Mandatory Stop & Yield signage
 - Traffic Preemption, Including Emergency Opticom System
- 11:15 – 11:45 AM **National View on Policies That Impact Safety at Grade Crossings**
Patricia Abbate (Citizen's for Rail Safety, Inc.)
- Recent study by The University of Louisville, "Safety at Grade Crossings"
 - Discussions on key findings and a list of recommended practices
- 11:45 – 12:30 PM **LUNCH**

12:30 – 1:00 PM	Section 130 Funding <i>Thomas Simpson (RSI)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How railroads apply • Process for state disbursement • Reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU
1:00 – 1:45 PM	Quiet Zones <i>Ron Ries (FRA), Randy Dickinson (FRA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Train Horn Rule • Developing Quiet Zones • Case Studies • Railroad's Perspective
1:45 – 2:00 PM	BREAK
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Crossing Closures <i>Cheryl Townlian (BNSF Railroad), Beth Crawford (FRA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to network with Federal and State Agencies • How to deal with community concerns and provide effective outreach • Railroad initiatives and suggestive guidelines
2:45 – 3:30 PM	Video Enforcement at Grade Crossings <i>Mark Etzbach & Peter McNerney (Redflex Traffic Systems)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzing Benefits Over Costs • Successful Experiences
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Private Crossings <i>Ron Ries (FRA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FRA update • Authority for State DOT oversight • Minimum signage requirement
5:30 – 8:00 PM	Dinner Reception <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No charge for conference attendees • Transportation provided (board busses at hotel lobby for 5:15 pm) • Chartered riverboat cruise along Boston's Charles River • Lobster and clambake dinner on board

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

8:00 – 9:30 AM	Web-based Grade Crossing Data Inventory for State DOT's <i>Frank B. Ramond, P.E. (PennDOT)</i> <i>Brann A. Greager, P.E. (OK DOT)</i> <i>Richard H. Burke, P.E. (NY DOT)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various software programs to update FRA database • Challenges and benefits for State DOT's to maintain
9:30 – 10:00 AM	Innovative Safety Solutions for R.R. Grade Crossings <i>Anya Carroll (Volpe)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates from Volpe Center • Median Separation
10:00 – 10:15 AM	BREAK

10:15 – 10:45 AM	Pedestrian Crossing Safety <i>Beth Crawford (FRA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning Devices at Pedestrian Crossings • Improved Safety at Pedestrian Crossings
10:45 – 11:15 AM	National Inventory Updates <i>Tom Woll (FRA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State DOT's and the Railroads working together • Revamped grade crossing inventory form • Important forthcoming changes
11:15 – 12 noon	Wrap up, General Discussion <i>Bill Browder (AAR), Tim Davis & Frank Frey (DPU)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up questions • Conference Closing Remarks by Chairman Robert Herstein • Future 2009 host location
12 NOON	End of conference, lunch on your own, have a safe trip home.